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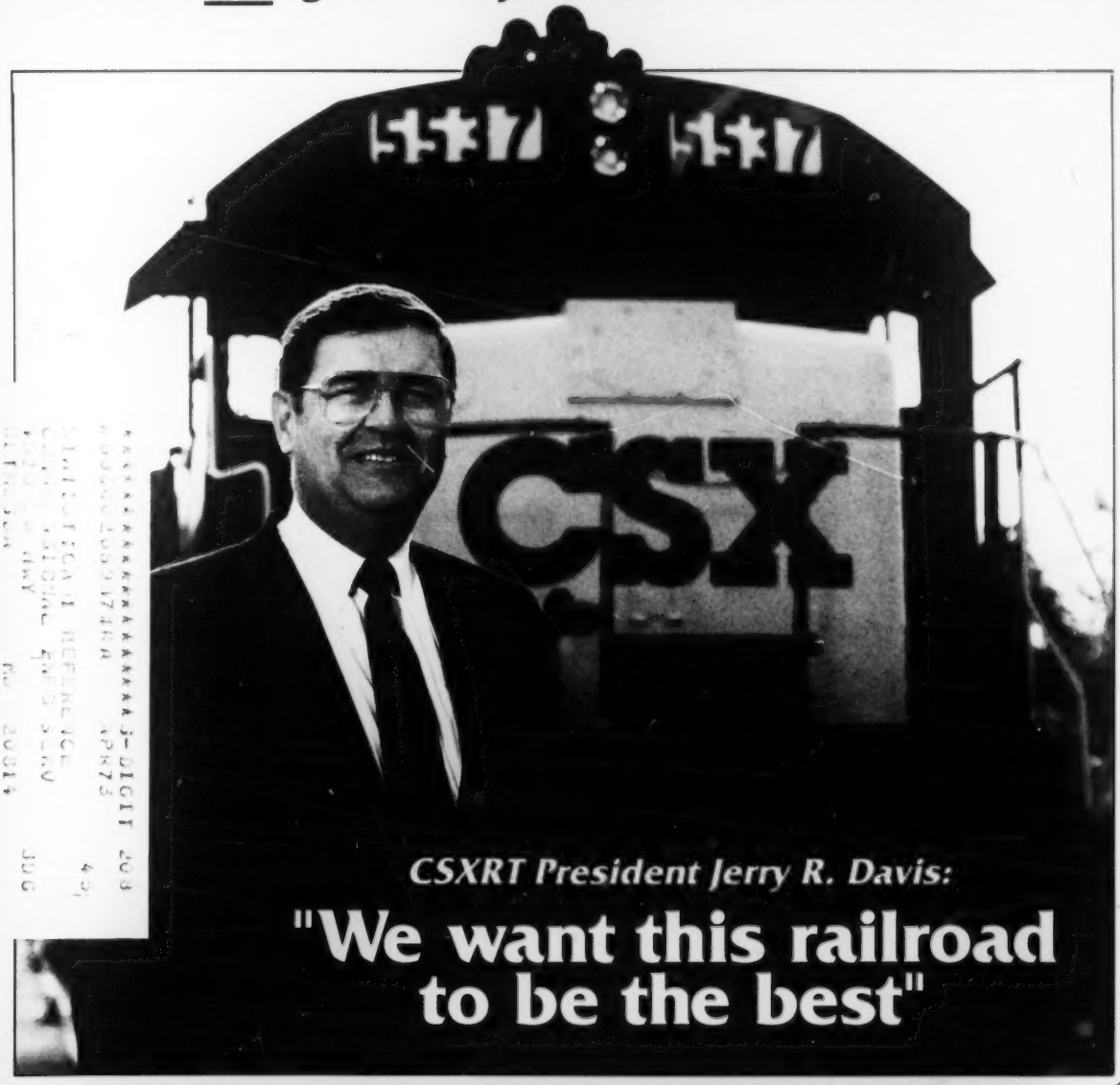
August 1990

Railway Age

...for the new age of railways and rail transit



CSXRT President Jerry R. Davis:

"We want this railroad to be the best"

Special Report

Railroads in 1990: After 10 years of progress, danger lies ahead

What makes St. Louis light rail different

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CSX Rail Transport's president has been on the job for only about a year, but he's moved fast to formulate a strategy for improving performance, with particular attention to greater locomotive reliability.

45 For Metro-North, 60-mph turnouts

At Scarsdale, N.Y., M-N has installed its first tangential geometry turnouts specifically designed for high density, high speed passenger operations; more are coming.

50 What's different about St. Louis light rail

By using ready-made infrastructure and sticking to a no-frills design, builders of Metro-Link are holding costs down to about $16.5 million per double track mile.

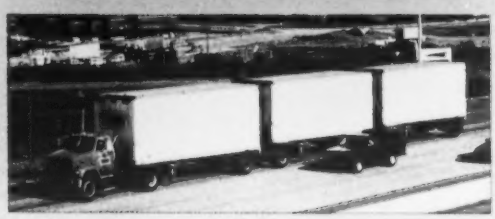
SPECIAL REPORT

The Staggers years: Back from the brink.....p. 30

The railroads have come a long way from the days not so long ago when one in every five miles of track was operated under the gavel of bankruptcy courts. But the comeback journey isn't over.

The myth of the monster trucks...p. 35

If truckers succeed in putting veritable trains of trucks on public roads across the land, the effects could be calamitous—on highway safety, on the environment, on the railroads.



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MARKET OUTLOOK

Equipment

CSX Transportation: Awarded a contract to Morrison Knudsen for the remanufacture of 50 road slug locomotives at MK's Mountaintop, Pa., shops. Work is to be completed by the end of this year. Meanwhile, work is underway at MK's Boise, Ida., industrial complex on the remanufacture of 50 CSX locomotives under a contract awarded earlier.

CSX Transportation: Ordered two four-axle, 38-foot, 55-ton scale-test cars from Itel Rail for delivery in the fourth quarter. The CSXT order is the first to be received by Itel for new cars to be built at NewCastle, Pa., since it acquired the facility from Miner Railcar Services. The shop is undergoing a $1-million expansion program, which will increase its maintenance/repair capacity from 500 to 900 cars per year; the plant also has capability to build up to 50 new specialty cars annually.

Itel Rail: Placed an order with Trinity Industries for 1,000 new covered hopper cars for delivery through the first quarter of 1991. Half will be of 4,750-cubic-foot capacity and half of 3,000-cubic-foot capacity. Trinity will build the cars at Greenville, Pa., and Bessemer, Ala.

Southern Pacific: Will rebuild 40 diesel locomotive engines and the power assemblies for another 100 locomotives at its Sacramento Locomotive Works, a program that will extend through the remainder of 1990. SP last month recalled 122 furloughed workers in connection with the rebuilding project.

Facilities

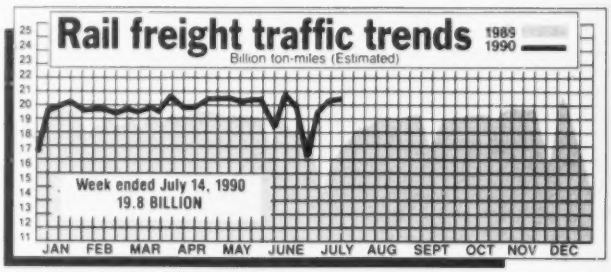
Conrail: Invested $14.8 million in the rebuilding of its automotive transloading facility in Ridgefield Heights, N.J., which supports General Motors' distribution needs in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area.

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission: Awarded a contract to STV/Seelye Stevenson Value & Knecht to study the feasibility of operating rail commuter service into the Los Angeles Union Passenger Terminal along routes from Ventura County, Santa Clarita, San Bernardino County, Riverside County, and Orange County.

Revenue freight carloadings

Commodity	July 14 week	July 7 week	June 30 week	June 23 week	June 16 week
Grain	27,564	22,968	29,370	26,543	28,278
Other farm products	1,262	1,491	1,954	1,906	2,076
Metallic ores	22,919	21,963	19,102	19,994	21,049
Coal	120,711	88,949	114,380	128,145	132,345
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	16,758	15,269	17,731	17,447	17,118
Nonmetallic minerals	9,133	8,208	9,209	9,941	9,087
Grain mill products	9,906	9,189	10,120	9,715	9,870
Food and kindred products	8,691	7,450	8,402	8,269	8,640
Primary forest products	10,350	7,345	10,284	10,011	10,081
Lumber and wood products	5,619	4,415	7,095	6,673	6,589
Pulp, paper and allied products	10,798	10,441	11,036	10,630	10,328
Chemicals and allied products	26,819	25,441	28,487	27,455	27,244
Petroleum products	5,465	4,538	5,123	4,760	5,375
Stone, clay and glass products	10,529	8,681	10,031	10,414	10,359
Coke	5,544	5,108	5,415	5,630	5,866
Metals and products	9,435	9,129	9,908	9,720	9,781
Motor vehicles and equipment	12,112	11,168	19,764	21,847	21,042
Waste and scrap materials	8,283	6,268	8,713	8,934	8,961
All other carloads	6,324	5,480	6,622	7,043	6,210
Total Cars Loaded	**328,222**	**273,701**	**332,746**	**345,077**	**350,299**
% change from previous year	8.2	10.6	4.2	4.1	3.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (billions)	19.8	16.4	19.6	20.3	20.4
% change from previous year	13.1	14.7	7.7	8.0	6.8

Total:	1990	1989	% change
28 weeks	9,442,173	9,333,768	1.2


Rail freight traffic trends
1989
1990
Billion ton-miles (Estimated)
Week ended July 14, 1990
19.8 BILLION
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

Source: Association of American Railroads

Intermodal traffic

	July 14	July 7	June 30	June 23	June 16
Trailers	60,086	55,082	70,865	65,839	65,613
Containers	52,447	42,619	52,238	53,374	53,553
Total	**112,533**	**97,701**	**123,103**	**119,213**	**119,166**
% change from previous year	1.7	10.1	4.0	3.8	5.1

Cumulative total: 28 weeks		% change
	3,244,797	3.7

Freight cars

	DELIVERED 2nd quarter 1990	DELIVERED 2nd quarter 1989	ORDERED 2nd quarter 1990	ORDERED 2nd quarter 1989	ON ORDER AND UNDELIVERED July 1 1990	ON ORDER AND UNDELIVERED July 1 1989
Built new by carbuilders	7,971	7,838	10,990	5,649	16,556	16,398
Built new in RR shops	0	0	0	0	0	0
Built new—Total	7,971	7,838	10,990	5,649	16,556	16,398
Rebuilt	2,609	0	3,045	0	0	0
TOTAL	**10,580**	**7,838**	**14,035**	**5,649**	**16,556**	**16,398**
Locomotives (new and rebuilt)	131	213	N/A	N/A	133	146

Source: Transportation Division, AAR and American Railway Car Institute